

ORIGIN/ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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NO.

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AIR POUCH

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : DHAHRAN CHUSMTM COMIDEASTFOR
USMTM AIR FORCE SECTION USMTM ARMY SECTION

DEPT PASS: See list of posts below (25)

FROM : Amembassy JIDDA

DATE: October 24, 1963

SUBJECT: Joint Weeka No. 41

REF :

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PSYCHOLOGICAL

3. Black Muslims

Action Assign

Group Taken

Downgraded at 3-year intervals

Declassified after 12 years

Date of

Action Office

Name of Officer

Attention to RM/R

FORM 4-62 DS-323

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☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

RWMurphy/CEMarthinsen/MDraper/GLane:lf

Contents and Classification Approved by:

10-22-63

NGThacher, Counselor of Embassy

Clearances:

REVISED BY: *pbrown* DATE: *10/14/82*

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S) ☐

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐

RELEASE DENIED ☐ IN PART

PA OR FOI EXEMPTIONS (check value only)

POLITICAL/ECONOMIC

DECLASSIFIED

2. Major Road Program Underway. Last week Ministry of Communications addressed "letters of intent" to three consulting engineering firms, Wilson-Murrow (US), Santi (Italy) and Andreas Wagner (West Germany), which will enable them to bring in equipment and personnel in preparation for feasibility surveys, design of roads and supervision of construction of 5600-plus kilometers of highways. Formal signing of five-year contracts is expected momentarily.

At same time, Highways Department of Ministry of Communications is undertaking begin construction, using its own resources, of extensive system rural roads which will feed into major road network. Program will cost some \$11 million.
(UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Contracts with three consultants is long stride forward in economic development program. Credit doubtless should go to US Roads Team, which visited Kingdom earlier this year, for overcoming Crown Prince's hesitations, suspicions re use of consultants, and for outlining suggested construction priorities, which are being observed in these contracts with little amendment. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

3. Ford Foundation Program. October 15 Finance Minister Prince MUSA'ID signed agreement with Ford Foundation representatives under which latter will undertake massive program aimed inter alia at: improving, modernizing government administration, particularly finances and budgeting; training lower, middle echelon civil service personnel; instituting widespread English language training for the civil service; improving school systems, particularly secondary and preparatory levels, and teacher training institutions; and recruiting special foreign advisors to fill the most pressing needs of the government, particularly in fields of education, public administration, economic development.

Ford has already recruited American citizen H. WOOLEY, to act as chief economist in Supreme Planning Board (SPB); it is not yet clear whether Wooley replaces Harold FOLK, recently dismissed chief adviser to the SPB.

To preserve tax-free status as a philanthropic organization, Ford must frame special formula to administer funds (possibly \$2 million initially) that SAG has allocated for program. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

Comment: Foundation has set for itself task of immense dimensions, but one which, if accomplished, could do more to transform Kingdom into modern state than anything that has yet been mooted. It is tribute to Crown Prince that he warmly endorsed agreement, which was pushed to its conclusion by Deputy Finance Minister Hassan MISHARI, one of ablest and most energetic of the young Saudi government servants. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

4. US Firm Scores Hit in Municipal Buildings Project. American engineering firm Panero International, in two month period, designed wide variety municipal buildings under contract with Ministry of Interior. Ministry officials were pleased and impressed with results Panero contract, especially with the speed with which preliminary drawings submitted, fact that construction costs are estimated significantly less than Interior had anticipated because firm's designs take account of limited skills available and the need to import special materials.

Ministry authorized public exposition in Riyadh of Panero models and drawings thus far approved, hoping that public reaction will be equally enthusiastic. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Panero, as result this success, likely to obtain further contracts under development program, including consulting role for the major water and sewage projects about to begin in Kingdom's major cities. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

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3. Black Muslims. Arabo's Public Relations Chief in Jidda, naturalized Saudi, Shakib al-Amawi, penned feature story praising Black Muslim movement in US as "treasure of Islam" in America. Evincing belief that Black Muslims are in fact co-religionists, he called for Arabs to aid and support movement as counter to Zionist groups in U.S. Reportedly al-Bilad, which carried al-Amawi's breathless, ill-considered article October 14, received visit from representatives Jidda Morality Police who pointed out basic cleavages between Black Muslim's racist dogmas and orthodox Islam's condemnation of racial intolerance. The post is seeking ways to rectify erroneous impression al-Amawi's article has spread.
(UNCLASSIFIED)

For the Ambassador:

Charles E. Marthinsen
Second Secretary of Embassy

DEPT PASS TO: ADEN, AMMAN, ANKARA, BAGHDAD (2), BEIRUT, BEIRUT FOR MELG,
/ - ~~FRANKFURT~~ FOR CINCUSAFE, CAIRO, DAMASCUS, FRANKFURT FOR LINDSEY AIR STATION,
ATTN: DSC INTELLIGENCE IDCA, HEADQUARTERS; USAREUR HEIDELBERG;
KARACHI, KHARTOUM, KUWAIT, LONDON FOR CINCNELM, RABAT, TAIZ,
TEHRAN, PARIS, PARIS FOR CINCCEUR, ASMARA, TEL AVIV, TRIPOLI,
JERUSALEM

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